FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 MAY 1983

Lebanon

The heads of the Lebanese, Israeli, and U.S. delegations signed the French and Arabic texts of the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement at Khaldah and the English and Hebrew texts at Qiryat Shemona in ceremonies relayed live by Beirut and Jerusalem radios on 17 May. The previous day the Knesset approved the accord by a large majority with the opposition Alignment abstaining, according to Jerusalem radio. Earlier, the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies approved a recommendation supporting the government's efforts to attain full sovereignty, the speaker announced over Beirut radio after the session. The proposal thus adopted was made by former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, who told the deputies in a speech broadcast by the radio that, since the chamber could ratify the agreement only after it had been signed by the president, it should meanwhile unanimously express support for Lebanese "domestic unity." He also said Lebanon should negotiate with Syria in a spirit of "brotherly love," disclosing that he had received information that "the door is open for negotiation" with the Syrians.

Commending the draft agreement to the chamber in a lengthy statement broadcast by Beirut radio, Foreign Minister Elie Salim said that, although Lebanon has accepted conditions and restrictions, these are "temporary, acceptable, and reasonable" and "the necessary price" for recovering Lebanese territory without signing a peace treaty or establishing normal relations with Israel. The agreement will strengthen rather than undermine Lebanon's commitments to the Arab League and the joint Arab defense treaty, its relations with Syria, and Syrian security, he added. Noting previous Syrian and PLO commitments to withdraw from Lebanon, Salim said the Lebanese have "no doubt" Syria and the PLO will cooperate to implement the goals of the agreement, and he added that Lebanon will coordinate directly with the Syrians in order to emphasize that the agreement will not affect their security. Expressing concern that Israel will turn southern Lebanon into another West Bank and will divert the Litani River waters into the Israeli irrigation system if it continues its occupation, Salim said Lebanon must not lose the south in order "to satisfy slogans and pride." The foreign minister revealed that Lebanon has informed the United States that if "for any reason" Israel does not withdraw from Lebanon the latter will consider the agreement "suspended or canceled."

In other developments Moroccan King Hassan II and UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan expressed support for the Lebanese Government's position, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios.

Syria

Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Syria has called up Armed Forces reservists and also said the Muslim Brotherhood recently clashed with security forces in Aleppo.

PLO

The agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon is a "grave" one "which violates UN Security Council resolutions and infringes on Lebanon's independence, security, and Arab commitments,"a Fatah statement broadcast by San'a' Voice of Palestine Radio announced after a lengthy meeting of the Fatah Central Committee under PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in Damascus. According to the statement, the Central Committee also discussed the "undisciplined behavior" that recently took place within a Fatah military unit in Al-Biqa' and the resulting "exaggerated and suspect" media campaign and foreign interference to "distort the stand of the movement and undermine its unity." The Central Committee expressed satisfaction at the "wisdom" with which all sides are approaching the problem and emphasized the importance of "democratic dialogue" within the movement to resolve problems. Meanwhile, Yasir 'Arafat inspected PLO units in Al-Biqa' for the third time in recent days, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing WAFA.

In another development an "official" Palestinian source in Damascus said an exchange of prisoners of war between the PLO and Israel will take place only through the International Red Cross, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio reported. While asserting that the slow progress of these negotiations is a result of Israel's failure to meet the PLO's conditions, the official added that the negotiations are continuing.

GCC Mission to Iran, Iraq

Iran wants to stop the oil spill as soon as possible and will direct all its resources toward solving the problem, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said during his meeting in Tehran with a GCC mission headed by the UAE and Kuwaiti foreign ministers, IRNA reported. The speaker also called on regional governments to "compel" Iraq to cease its "adventurist acts." The GCC mission, which also plans to hold talks with Iraqi officials, is to discuss political issues involved in the protection of the region's maritime environment prior to the 18 May GCC Ministerial Council session in Saudi Arabia, WAKH said earlier. The GCC mission also conferred with Iranian Foreign minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who said the visit had "nothing to do" with the Iran-Iraq war and that no talks in this respect were included on the agenda, according to Tehran radio's Arabic service and IRNA. Velayati stressed that this did not mean Iran rejected the efforts of regional countries to end the war.

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Keshtmand Addresses Economic Seminar Participants
LD170558 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kabul, May 16, BAKHTAR — Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, received in his office the participants of the three-day seminar on assessment of the tasks achieved by the activists of enterprises and factories of the Ministry of Mines and Industries in 1361 H.S. (ended on March 29, 1983.).

At the outset, M. Esma'il Danesh, alternate member of the PDPA CC Politburo and minister of mines and industries, explained briefly the results of the implementation of the economic and social development plan of the ministry during the last year and the duties of the ministry in the light of the resolutions of the 11th plenum of the PDPA CC.

Addressing the participants, the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA said that the convocation of this seminar is considered as a positive step.

Shedding light on the significance of the 11th plenum of the PDPA CC which focused for the first time on tackling the economic problems of the country, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand added that the 11th plenum has determined the new productive targets and the tasks which are to be carried out by the resective enterprises of the Ministry of Mines and Industries.

S.A. Kehstmand said: Pursuant to the resolutions of the plenum, the level of domestic production in the current year and in the next year must be raised as compared with pre-revolution years. The damaged enterprises, he stressed, must be reconstructed. The enterprises which were totally or partially inactive must start their operation and they must operate at full capacity. Most of these tasks relate to the respective organs and enterprises of the Ministry of Mines and Industries.

He drew their ever-further attention for the fulfillment of their important assigned tasks and the implementation of the targets given to them.

One of the participants on behalf of their colleagues expressed readiness to make ever-further efforts in implementing the decisions of the 11th plenum.

Paper Details Socioeconomic Development Plan
LD170614 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kabul, May 16, BAKHTAR — Daily HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB SAWR carries an article on the socio-economic development plan for the year 1362 H.S. (began on March 21, 1983) which views the overall state development investment as such:

The overall state development investment in the year 1362 H.S. amounts to 14,688.5 million afghanis which is higher by 35.6 percent compared with the volume of development expenditures of the year 1361 (ending March 20, 1983).

In the socio-economic development plan for the year 1362 (March 21, 1983-March 20, 1984), first priority is given to the sphere of mines, industry and energy with an envisaged investment of 5.1 billion Afghanis which constitute 34.7 percent of the total investment. 3.9 billion Afghanis which constitutes 26.9 percent of the total investment will be invested in the sphere of social services and takes the second place. Transportation and communications with an evisaged investment of 3,906.7 million Afghanis and agriculture and irrigation with an envisaged investment of 1.7 billion Afghanis comprise 26.6 percent and 11.5 percent of the total investment respectively.

Information on Credits to Peasants Issued
LD170622 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kabul, May 16 BAKHTAR — Daily HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB SAWR carries a report on credit to peasants which reads in part:

In the autumn cultivation in 1361 (ended March 20, 1983) 80 thousand tons of chemical fertilizers, 3,500 tons of improved wheat seed and agricultural pesticides and insecticides worth 13 million afghanis were distributed to the peasants of the capital and provinces. Likewise, agricultural credits amounting to over 97 million afghanis were given to them.

In the spring cultivation campaign for the year 1362 (begun on March 21, 1983), provision has been made for the distribution of 6,000 tons sowing wheat seeds, over 6,000 tons of sowing cotton seeds, 70 tons sugar beet seeds, over 42,000 tons of chemical fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides worth over 40 million afghanis and agricultural credits at easy terms amounting to350 million afghanis to the peasants throughout the country.

The government is expected to raise its purchase of cotton by 60 percent and that of sugar beet by 40 percent in 1362 H.S. (began on March 21, 1983).

Reportage on Saudi Finance Minister's 4-Day Visit

BK140921 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] The Saudi minister for finance and national economy, Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, arrived in Dhaka on a 4-day visit to Bangladesh to attend the first session of the Bangladesh-Saudi Arabia joint economic commission. He is leading a 12-member delegation.

The Saudi minister told newsmen at the airport that during the last few years cooperation between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia was expanding in different fields. He described the relations between the two countries as special. He [words indistinct] with the spirit of cooperation and was looking forward to reviewing the entire gamut of bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries in the economic commission meeting. He said an agreement for setting up a Saudi-Bangladesh joint investment company and two additional agreements on financing some development projects in Bangladesh will be signed during his stay in the country. The Saudi minister will visit Jaipurhat limestone mining and cement project and the Teesta barrage project.

Immediately after his arrival, the Saudi minister called on the deputy chief martial law administrator [DCMLA] and the minister for energy, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud. They discussed different aspects of Saudi cooperation and assistance programs in the energy sector in Bangladesh. They also discussed the possibilities of undertaking joint venture projects in the sector.

The DCMLA appreciated the assistance given by Saudi Arabia in various development projects and discussed with the Saudi minister the future program, especially the Jaipurhat limestone mining and cement project and (Maitripada) hardrock mining project.

The Saudi minsiter assured all possible help and cooperation for the development of the energy sector in Bangladesh.

Talks With President

BK150952 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 15 May 83

[Excerpt] The visiting Saudi minsiter for finance and national planning, Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, has said Bangladesh has the potentiality to become a prosperous nation and the Saudi Government will give all possible help in her development efforts. He said this when he called on President Assanuddin Chowdhury in Dhaka yesterday afternoon.

The Saudi minister expressed the hope that the ties between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh will continue to grow in the years to come to the mutual benefit of the two countries. He conveyed to the president the greetings from King Fahd.

Earlier, the Bangladesh president recalled the religious, historical, and cultural ties between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia and hoped that these ties will further be strengthened with the passage of time.

The president expressed his admiration with the minister for Saudi Arabia for their contribution toward the cause of Islamic ummah. He said Bangladesh was in total solidarity with Saudi Arabia in her efforts for establishment of an independent Palestinian state and for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories.

The president expressed deep appreciation for the economic assistance given by Saudi Arabia in the development efforts of Bangladesh. He also conveyed his felicitations to the king and the crown prince of Saudi Arabia.

Meeting With Ershad

BK151401 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] The visiting Saudi minister for finance and national economy, Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, has expressed high appreciation of the various informative measures being undertaken by the present government in Bangladesh to improve the socioeconomic condition of the people. The Saudi minister conveyed his feelings to the chief martial law administrator [CMLA], Lieutenant General H. M. Ershad when he paid a visit to the operations wing of the CMLA Secretariat in Dhaka today at the invitation of the CMLA.

Muhammad Aba al-Khayl was shown a chart which contains the latest figures of foodstock and its distribution, supply position of agricultural inputs, market prices of essential commodities, export and import position, health and family planning measures, and activities of the upgraded thanas [police zones].

He showed keen interest in the whole mechanism and said he was very much impressed by the system of monitoring the latest position of the development efforts. This, he said, was a very good technique and arrangement which would keep the head of government in touch with the latest situation in various sectors and enable him to take immediate measures to mitigate the sufferings of the people right up to the village level.

The CMLA informed the Saudi minister that efforts are being made to bring about changes that would benefit the teeming millions in the rural areas. Decentralization of administration and judiciary has already started yielding good results. These efforts are aimed at achieving self-reliant economy, he said. The finance minsiter, Mr A. M. A. Muhith, was also present on the occasion.

16 May Departure

BK161322 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 16 May 83

[Excerpt] The Saudi minister for finance and national economy, Aba al-Khayl, left Dhaka this morning at the end of his 4-day visit to Bangladesh. The finance minister, A.M.A. Muhith, and senior officials of the external resources division were present at the airport to see him off. Mr Khayl, who led a 12-member delegation, attended the third meeting of the Bangladesh-Saudi Arabia joint commission held in Dhaka yesterday.

During his stay in the capital, Mr Khayl signed two project loan agreements totaling $26.96 million and another agreement for the establishment of a joint investment company.

Briefs

Cultural Agreement With USSR — Bangladesh and the Soviet Union signed an agreement on cultural and academic exchanges between the two countries in Dhaka today. The agreement envisages the exchange of delegations in the fields of science and higher technical education. Under the exchange program, both countries have agreed on the [word indistinct] visits of the cultural troupes, writers and journalists and exchange of radio and television programs. [Text] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 26 Apr 83 BK]

TRIBUNE: Government Sends Proposal to Sikh Leaders
BK170810 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 17 May 83

[By Ravi Velloor]

[Excerpts] New Delhi, May 17 (AFP) — The federal government has sent an eight-point proposal to autonomy-minded Sikh leaders on their territorial and water-right demands, Punjab's leading English daily, THE TRIBUNE reported today.

It said that the proposal had been sent on Sunday to leaders of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal. The document suggested that all territorial disputes be put to a commission of linguistic experts and water-rights claims be referred to a tribunal, the newspaper reported. The recommendations of both would be binding, it said.

THE TRIBUNE reported that the proposals also sought assurances that Sikhs — who have been pressing their demands for the past 19 months — would not use violence against the breakaway sect of Nirankaris and that criminals would not be harboured in the Golden Temple in Amritsar and in other Sikh shrines.

Sikh leader Harchand Singh Longowal continued to deny having received any formula from the central government. But Home Minister Prakash Chandra Sethi told Parliament on May nine and reiterated on Sunday that new proposals had been sent to Sikh leaders in the Golden Temple.

Mr. Longowal, who heads the largest splinter of the Akali Dal has maintained that the only way to solve the problem of the unrest in the northern Punjab was to accept his party's demands.

Mrs. Gandhi was meanwhile quoted as saying that every time the government pursued an Akali proposal, the party's leadership changed its stance under pressure from extremists. This made it difficult to seriously discuss any formula, she told an Akali faction leader yesterday.

She also said that she was under pressure to order police to enter the Golden Temple to flush out criminals but added that she fully respected Sikh sentiments. Police in India normally do not enter places of workship.

In a related development, a Home Ministry and presidential palace spokesmen called absolutely "baseless" and "mischievous" reports that President Zail Singh — the first Sikh to hold the presidential post — opposed the police entering Sikh temples and had threatened to resign if such steps were taken.

Akali Leaders Comment on Punjab Situation
BK161621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] The Akali Dal Chief, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has appealed to the people of Punjab to maintain peace and communal harmony in the state. In an appeal brought out by the district peace and communal harmony committee of Amritsar, he asked people to collectively fight attempts by certain communal and antisocial elements to disturb the traditional peace in the state. The sant said his party is totally committed to national unity, communal harmony, and mutual love and respect among the people of all communities in the state.

The president of the Akali Dal-Master Tarasingh Group, Jathedar Rachhpal Singh, has appealed to Akali leaders and other opposition parties to cooperate with the government to find an amicable solution to the Punjab tangle. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he suggested that identity cards be issued to citizens in border states to check any unlawful entry into these areas.

President's Reported Threat To Resign Denied
BK161607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Official sources in New Delhi described as absolutely baseless reports appearing in a section of the press that President Giani Zail Singh has threatened to resign if any step is taken to send the police into the Golden Temple. These sources have clarified that the government has no proposal to send the police into the Golden Temple.

AFP: Exocet Missiles May Be Fitted on Jaguar Planes
BK161211 Hong Kong AFP in English 1110 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] New Delhi, May 16 (AFP) — France has agreed to help India adapt its Jaguar jets to carry Exocet air-to-ship missiles, informed sources said here today.

An agreement has been reached in principle and studies have started on integrating the missile — used with telling effect by Argentina in the Falklands conflict — with the Jaguar, the sources said.

Defence Ministry sources here declined to confirm or deny if India had already acquired any Exocet missiles from France. But the informed sources said negotiations were underway between French and Indian defence experts on the purchase of various sophisticated arms and also technology transfer for doemstic production.

The negotiations covered the Exocet AM-39 missiles, although none have yet been shipped to India, the sources said.

The sources said France has agreed to help the Indian Air Force adapt the Jaguar for a maritime role and also make the necessary modifications for attaching the Exocet missiles to the plane.

The sources noted that when French Defense Minister Charles Hernu visited here last October, he said that France was willing to sell ' wide range of military equipment to India" in addition to the advanced Mirage-2000 fighter aircraft.

Defence experts said the Exocet would add a new punch to the Jaguar, which could then be effectively deployed on maritime missions.

The Jaguar is best suited for deep penetration strikes at low level, experts said. The Exocet skims the waves and the missile's flight path is regulated by radio altimeters. Each missile weighs about 730 kg (1,606 pounds) and has a range of 50-70 km (about 30-45 miles).

India's neighbour, Pakistan, is reported to have Exocets on its maritime reconnaissance and strike aircraft.

The mirage-2000, for which a "memorandum of understanding and intention to proceed" has already been signed, is not expected to be delivered before next year.

India already has one squadron of Jaguars in service, bought from British Aerospace in 1979.

Khunjerab Pass Travel Route to PRC Inaugurated
BK161619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Pakistan and China today opened the 4,620-meter-high Khunjerab pass in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir for regular travel and trade. The pass, situated at the terminus of the Chinese-built Karakoram Highway, was opened under a protocol signed in August last year.

It may be recalled that India has already lodged a protest that the two countries had no right to enter into an international agrement over an area under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. India has made it clear to Pakistan that the move would affect India's sovereignty and security because it involves setting up of additional border posts in the area.

Hegde Returned in Karnataka By-election
BK161616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 May 83

[Excerpts] The Karnataka chief minister, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, has been elected to the state assembly from the Kanakapura constituency. In the by-election held yesterday, he defeated his nearest Congress-I rival, Mr (D. Lingegawda), by a margin of about 23,000 votes in a 13-cornered contest.

In the (Alberga) constituency Mr Subhash Chandra Patil of the Congress-I defeated his nearest Bharatiya Janata Party rival, Mr S.K. Despandey, by a margin of about 6,500 votes.

Mr Hegde has said that his victory from Kanakapura is a mandate for the policies and programs of the new Janata government in the state for the past 4 months. He said at Kanakapura that he would strive hard to provide a clean and efficient administration for the state.

BJP Leader on Situation in Jammu-Kashmir
BK161642 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] president, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, has said the law-and-order situation in Jammu and Kashmir has deteriorated. Addressing a press conference in Srinagar today, he said Article 370 of the Constitution which grants special (?credit) to the state should be referred to the Sarkaria commission looking into the center-state relations. Mr Vajpayee described the contest between the Congress-I and the National Conference as shadow boxing.

The Jammu and Kashmir Congress-I chief, Mufti (Mohammad Saeed), has alleged that the law-and-order situation is worsening in the state. At a press conference in Srinagar today, he alleged that a number of his party's vehicles were damaged and candidates assaulted.

Malur Curfew Lifted; Prohibitory Orders Issued
BK170620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] In Karnataka curfew in Malur near Bangalore was lifted last evening as life in the town has returned to normalcy. Prohibitory orders, however, have been clamped in the town for a week as a precautionary measure.

MRD To Begin 'Democracy Restoration Drive' 14 Aug

GF161600 Karachi DAWN in English 12 May 83 P 12

[Text] The MRD has announced its decision to launch a campaign on Aug 14 this year for the "restoration of democracy."

The decision was taken at a meeting of the MRD's Central Action Committee held on Tuesday, with Maulana Luqman Alipuri of the defunct Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam, in the chair.

The meeting was attended by Khwaja Khairuddin (PMI [Pakistan Muslim League] - Khairuddin group); Sardar Sherbaz Mazari and Mr Abid Zuberi (NDP) [National Democratic Party]; Mr Farooq Leghari, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and Maulana Ehtram-ul-Haq (PPP) [Pakistan People's Party]; Mr Mairaj Mohammad Khan, Mr Iqbal Hyder and Mr Alamdar Hyder (Qaumi Mahazi-i-Azadi), Mr Fatehyab Ali Khan (Mazdoor Kisan Party), Mr Mushtaq Mirza (PDP) [Pakistan Democratic Party] and Qari Sher Afzal and Hakim Jamaluddin (JUI) [Jamiatul-Ulema-e Islam].

In a resolution, the MRD committee called for holding conventions of workers in the provincial capitals on June 10.

The committee's resolution was released on Wednesday at a press briefing by the MRD secretary-general, Khwaja Khairuddin, at Mr Mazari's residence.

In a separate note, containing a 31 points programme, the MRD made it clear that its eight component parties were struggling for "democracy and the federation, for the people and all parties irrespective of which party is chosen by the people."

The MRD pledged to uphold the 1973 Constitution, to strengthen defence capabilities through compulsory military training for all able-bodied citizens and to provide them with arms for self-defence.

It further sought to ensure the participation of the different geographical, historical, cultural and linguistic entities of the Federation of Pakistan in the affairs of the state and to promote their economic, political and cultural rights.

Other points pertained to the strict addherence to the concept of "separation of powers" between legislature, judiciary and executive, to the independence of judiciary, protection of fundamental rights, freedom of the press and withdrawal of the press and publications ordinance.

In the labour field, the rights of workers for all trade union activities and to strike for collective bargaining were assured. Equitable socio-economic rights and opportunities to women were guaranteed as also the rights of the religious minorities.

The MRD envisaged a permanent system of accountability for all civil and military personnel and those in public life.

In the socio-economic sphere, it was sought to eliminate inequities among the various sections of people, to reduce the burden of taxation and to raise the wages of workers, fixed income groups and professional working class in proportion to the increase in the cost of living.

It called for a clear demarcation between the roles of private industry and the state sector, and the evolution of a socio-ecconomic system based on the principle: "from each according to his ability to each according to his work."

In the domain of foreign affairs, the MRD sought to ensure the non-aligned status for Pakistan by "withdrawing from all military pacts and denying military bases on our sacred soil" It stood for friendly relations with the Third World and Muslim states and especially with neighbouring countries.

Minister Urges Better Government-Press Relations

GF161329 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 11 May p 1

[Text] Karachi, 10 May -- Federal Minister for Press and Publications Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq has said that the government will continue efforts to improve relations between the government and the press. While there can be differences of opinion between the two, an understanding can also be reached between them. However, differences in objectives can be dangerous. The minister said that a majority of journalists work for national objectives and only a small number occasionally show irresponsible trends. The "code of ethics" can replace only one clause of the Press and Publications Ordinance. The code of ethics cannot be a substitute for the entire ordinance. There should be more talks on the matter to solve mutually the problems that may be there.

The minister of press and publications said this while he was delivering the presidential address at the last session of the Qaid-e Azam press convention in Karachi today.

Bhutto Family Members Reportedly Settle in Libya

GF161616 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 10 May 83 p 1

[From international edition; by NAWA-E WAQT correspondent]

[Excerpts] London, 9 May: Sources close to Mrs Bhutto have said that her two sons Morteza and Shahnawaz Bhutto, who are also leaders of the Al-Zulfiqar Organization, have settled with their families in Libya and may never be able to return to Kabul.

The NAWA-E WAQT reporter was told that Mr Murteza Bhutto's father-in-law has also moved to New Delhi with his family. He was formerly the Afghan assistant counselor in New Delhi. A politician who has arrived in London from Kabul said that there is only one member of the defunct Pakistan People's Party in Kabul at present — Mr Kauser Ali Shah who has a high honorary post in Kabul, but who is a mechanical engineer by profession.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has provided all facilities to the Bhuttos in Tripoli.

Denial of Involvement in Punjab Crisis Cited

BK170248 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] The Indian home minister and Akali Dal chief have categorically denied any involvement of Pakistan in the Indian Punjab crisis. ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN in a report from New Delhi, however, says a section of the Indian press continues to accuse Pakistan of the alleged involvement.

BAKHTAR Transmits Communist Party Text on Tudeh

LD170550 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Kabul, May 16, BAKHTAR — Following is the text of the press statement of the CPP [Communist Party of Pakistan] Central Committee issued at Karachi on May 12, 1983.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Pakistan has followed with great concern and disgust the latest developments in Iran, particularly the unwarranted arrest and inhuman torture of the leaders of the Tudeh Party and strongly condemns the criminal acts of the right reactionary forces within the Iranian regime against the progressive patriotic forces, especially against the Tudeh Party — this patriotic party of heroes and martyrs of the working people of Iran and consistently anti-imperialist.

The Tudeh Party, the prominent and noteworthy role of which in the victory of anti-monarchical, anti-imperialist revolution is clear like broad daylight, has heroically fought for the advancement of Iran and has made tireless efforts to block the way of the dangerous trends encouraged by U.S. imperialism aimed at deviating the revolution from its professed objectives and thus jeopardizing the gains of the Iranian working people.

The Tudeh Party of Iran has always been the object of anger and attack on the part of the enemies of Iran, imperialism and reaction, over the whole history of its existence. Considering it as their sole enemy, they are out to discredit and annihilate this party by levelling shameless and unfounded accusations against it.

At the same time the Central Committee of the CPP also condemns the present anti-Soviet campaign launched by reactionary and SAVAK circles and considers it detrimental to the interests of revolution and people of Iran. This anti-Soviet campaign synchronized with the propaganda machine of imperialism coupled with the crackdown on Tudeh Party, leads Iran to the blind alley.

The Central Committee of the CPP regards enmity with Tudeh Party as enmity with the national interests of Iran and the Iranian working people and considers it in the interest of U.S.-led imperialism and reaction.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Pakistan, while vigorously condemning the arrest and torturing of the Tudeh Party leaders and members, at the head Comrade Nured din Kianuri, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party, presses their immediate release and demands the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran to revive the legal status of the party.

We call all the progressive and democratic world public to intensify their struggle for the release of the leaders and members of the Tudeh Party fallen prey to the wrath of imperialism and reaction.

Once again demanding the release of the Tudeh Party functionaries, we believe that this diabolical plan of the enemies of progress and well-being of the Iranian masses is doomed to failure and the Tudeh Party is destined to emerge victoriously and pridefully from this test. At this hour we are firmly standing beside our Iranian comrades in militant solidarity.

Release the Tudeh Party leaders and functionaries!

Long live Tudeh Party!

NEPAL

AFP Reports Political Workers Plan Protests

BK170612 Hong Kong AFP in English 0413 GMT 17 May 83

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Katmandu, May 17 (AFP) — Rank and file political workers angered by Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa's economic policy and what they consider is his failure to stop alleged administrative corruption are planning the third in a series of protests on Saturday.

The action is organised by the Katmandu District Panchayat (KDP), one of the main components of the three-tier partyless policy here.

The protest is intended to urge Mr. Thapa either to change his government's policy, or step down, protest organiser Jog Mehar Shretstha, a senior Panchayat leader who has served the government in several capacities for nine years, said.

On Sunday the District Panchayat began broadcasting appeals for people to attend a rally in the Katmandu open-air theatre. Similar events were staged by an anti-Thapa section of the National Panchayat (unicameral legislature) in Janakpur and Lahan last month.

Target of the protest will be Mr. Thapa's support of a 57 percent rise in electricity charges and a 25 percent rise in chemical fertilizer costs, sensitive subjects in this rural mountain kingdom.

Former Prime Ministers Matrika Prasad Koirala and Kirti Nidhi Bista, and some National Panchayat members have said they will join the rally.

Mr. Shretstha told reporters that Mr. Thapa, the first elected prime minister under the Panchayat system, had been performing his job "irresponsibly" and cited the consumer price hikes as an example.

He charged the Thapa government with failing to control an estimated 35 percent leakage in electricity use and said the government had mis-used its power by raising the charges to meet the loss.

He criticized the government for maintaining higher prices on such consumer goods as sugar and petroleum products, which went up when international market prices rose but did not fall in line with international levels.

He also said Mr. Thapa had dismissed government employees for no valid reason, and had created "insecurity" among civil servants.

Another Thapa critic in the National Panchayat, Dr. Damber Harayan Yadav, said the government had been trying to wage a "psychological and material warfare" against its opposition.

He said officials were trying to create mass hysteria to discourage the public from joining the rally and had been using their influence by distributing money and food received in the foreign grants.

Opposition National Panchayat members will introduce a no confidence vote against Mr. Thapa in the June budget session with enough votes to succeed, he said.

"Our fight against Prime Minister Thapa would continue even in the National Panchayat," he said.

Sources close to Mr Thapa dismissed the no-confidence challenge as "dew drops" which melt in the sun.

The anti-Thapa politicians number about 25 percent of the Panchayat but 60 percent is needed to pass a vote unless King Birendra moves against Mr Tharpa, a source said.

However, bickering among the rank and file Panchayat cadres may boost the influence of anti-Panchayat political workers, who also want to overthrow the prime minister and displace the Panchayat system. Mostly belonging to the leftist camp, they have also criticized consumer goods price hikes.

While Prime Minister Thapa faces opposition within and outside the Panchayat, one factor is in his favour — good weather this year has helped increase food production, which in turn would improve the overall national economic growth, sources said.

Khomeyni Addresses Revolution Guards Corps 16 May

GF170833 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Yesterday, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Imam Hoseyn, the third imam of the Shi'ite Muslims, and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Day, the imam's representative, the minister, commanders, and members of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps were received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

In this meeting, Mr Mohalati, the representative of the imam, offered congratulations on the auspicious birthday of Imam Hoseyn, may peace be upon him, and on the Guards Day to Imam Khomeyni, commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Later, the imam of the nation addressed the audience:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I, in return, congratulate you on this auspicious and great day. I always pray for you, but I do not send a message because the organs and foundations have increased and because all the organs, consisting of the Guards Corps, Armed Forces, committees, Majlis, and government are considered to be one organization and I have already sent a message to all.

It is a good choice that Guards Corps Day is commemorated on the birth anniversary of Hazrat Seyyed ol-Shohada [Imam Hoseyn], peace be upon him. I hope that as Imam Hoseyn, peace be upon him, revived Islam with his blood, you, by following in his footsteps, will guarantee the revolution and Islam. Bani Ommayeh had intended to wipe out Islam and, in the former regime, some individuals such as Yazid were doing illegal things in the name of civilization with the intention of causing the universities to decay and preoccupying the ordinary people with passionate desires. If the people had not revolted, the country would have been in their hands in a few years and everything would have deteriorated.

With the grace of God, all those problems were wiped out and as long as we are the real guards, the superpowers cannot do anything. The reason for the world pressure is that the superpowers are convinced that they are not capable of any coup d'etat or military invasion, and Iran, in the view of the region and Islam, possesses special powers. Thus, they do not let us alone.

We must recommend that all serve the cause of Islam and be united in order to avoid deviation. We must consider that we stand alone against all these enemies to navigate the heavy loads to the desired port. So we must be united in this task, without the slightest attachment to this group or to that group.

Please convey my regards to all brothers, to all guards, and to the security and armed forces. I pray for you and I am your servant. Peace and the blessings and mercy of God be upon you.

Radio Iran on Khomeyni's Remarks

GF161610 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Ruhollah Khomeyni has confirmed the presence of a power struggle and factionalism in the Islamic Republic. For the first time, he failed to send a message on the occasion of Guards Day. He met the commanders of the Guards Corps in Jamaran this morning and asked them not to favor one group or another. Khomeyni's remarks which were very short have been evaluated by political observers as a sign of deep worry about factionalism in the Guards Corps, which in the past few days has caused a number of harsh armed clashes.

Materials on GCC Foreign Ministers' Visit

Velayati's Remarks on Visit

GF160814 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 15, IRNA — Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said today that upcoming visit of foreign ministers of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) to Iran had nothing to do with the 31-month-old Iraqi imposed war and no talks in this respect was included in the agenda.

VeLayati stressed however that this did not mean Iran rejected regional countries efforts to end the Iraqi imposed war through meeting the justified conditions of Iran. Iran will always show good will towards measures aimed at elimination of aggression, payment of war reparations and condemnation of the aggressor, he added.

Foreign affairs ministers of Kuwait and the U.A.E., Shaykh al-Jabir al-Sabah and Rashid 'Abdullah an-Nu'aymi, are scheduled to visit Iran in a near future as part of joint efforts of the countries of the region to control the oil spill in the Persian Gulf waters caused by the Iraqi bombardment of the Iranian offshore oil wells early last March.

(Ever since the damage caused to the Iranian oil wells and contamination of Persian Gulf waters which has posed a threat to marine life and the peoples of the countries of the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly announced its willingness to take the necessary measures to cap the wells and clean up the spill in Persian Gulf waters. However, the Iraqi regime has created obstacles in this respect.)

As for the recent foreign troop withdrawal agreement signed recently between the Zionist regime and Lebanon, Velayati said that it was a step towards materialisation of the Camp David accord.

Execution of the agreement, said the foreign affairs minister, despite the apparent withdrawal of the Zionist forces, would

further strengthen the U.S. and the Zionist forces in Lebanon. Furthermore, another objective of the agreement, he said, was to make Syrian and Palestinian forces pull out of Lebanon and at the same time put them in a situation similar to those of the Zionist and American forces. This meant ignoring the Zionist occupation of Lebanon, he concluded.

Ministers' 16 May Arrival

LD161751 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] According to the report of the Central News Unit, the Kuwaiti and UAE foreign ministers arrived in Tehran this afternoon at the head of a political delegation to hold discussions on the oil spill in the Persian Gulf resulting from the missile attack by Saddam's regime against the Nowruz oil field. Shaykh Rashid 'Abdallah ar-Rashid, UAE minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti foreign minister, and their accompanying delegations were welcomed by Foreign Minister Velayati, the deputy foreign minister, a number of officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the ambassadors of Kuwait, UAE, and Algeria in Tehran.

On his arrival at Tehran, Kuwait's foreign minister said in an interview with reporters: We have come here on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council so that we can hold discussions with our Iranian brothers and in some way prevent the impending danger which is threatening the Persian Gulf littoral states. While expressing his gratitude for the welcome accorded them by the Islamic Republic of Iran and his congratulations on the occasion of third sha'aban, anniversary of the birthday of His Holiness Imam Husayn, may God's peace be upon him, Kuwait's foreign minister said: The issue of oil spillage from the wells in the Nowruz oil field is a common problem for all the Persian Gulf littoral states. We wish to continue our discussions with our Iranian brothers on the oil spill, which we started in Kuwait but which we could not complete. We hope that this issue will end in a way which is in the interests of all the Persian Gulf littoral states.

Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Rashid 'Abdallah ar-Rashid, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, met and conferred with Foreign Minister Velayati this afternoon.

During this meeting, which was also attended by a number of Foreign Ministry officials, the oil slick and the means to prevent Iraq's criminal acts were discussed.

Meeting With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

LD162058 Tehran IRNA in English 2009 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Tehran May 16 (IRNA) — Shaykh al-Jabar al-Sabah and Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nuamyi, the Kuwaiti and UAE foreign ministers, met and conferred with Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here today.

Talks were centered on the issue relating to the oil slick from the Iranian oil wells into the Persian Gulf waters caused by the Iraqi attack.

In that meeting Rafsanjani said Iran desired to harness the oil spill as quick as possible so that the people of the region may remain safe. He further said the regional governments should compel the Iraqi regime to cease its adventurist acts. The Majlis speaker also said that Iran was directing all its resources toward solving this problem in the interest of the people of the region.

The two officials arrived here today to hold talks with Iranian authorities to find means of controlling the Persian Gulf oil slick.

The visit is taking place due to the Iraqi regime's obstructionist practices in the meetings of the health ministers of the Persian Gulf countries.

Algerian Prime Minister Arrives for Talks 17 May

LD171029 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 17 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 17 IRNA — Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani said here this morning that the objective of his visit to Iran was further expansion of economic and political ties between the two countries.

Upon his arrival at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport today the Algerian premier hoped that mutual relations would be boosted in future.

Algerian Commerce Minister Abdelaziz Khellef and a delegation of high-ranking economic and political officials of Algeria are accompanying the visiting prime minister.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Commerce Minister Habibiollah 'Asgar-Owladi and a number of Iranian personalities as well as several ambassadors of Asian and African countries in Tehran received the Algerian guests.

Prime Minister Musavi said that the visit of the Algerian delegation, upon his invitation, was in fact a continuation of the contacts between Algeria and Iranian officials. He noted that the two sides would hold talks in political and economic fields.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,317

LD161737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 May 83

[Communique No 1,317 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Islamic combatants on all western fronts yesterday continued to reinforce their operational fronts. As they defended their positions and sectors, dispatching patrol groups to enemy defensive lines and firing on enemy positions and fortifications, they destroyed a number of light and

heavy weapons' emplacements, a tank, and several vehicles of the Saddamist mercenaries and killed a considerable number of their personnel.

On the Marivan front, the artillery fire of the proud combatants of the Ground Forces damaged the positions of the aggressive Iraqi forces in the (Diyareh), (Zalam), and (Khormal) sectors, partially destroyed enemy defensive emplacements, and killed or wounded several Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

On the southern fronts, sporadic exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons' fire continued. The victorious forces of Islam fired on enemy positions, supply routes and heavy engineering equipment, inflicting considerable losses and casualties on them, preventing enemy engineering and supply activities, and killing several Saddamist mercenaries.

On the Abadan front, sporadic exchanges of fire continued between our forces and the Saddamist mercenaries. The Islamic combatants returned enemy fire, silencing their fire, minimizing their movements, inflicting losses and casualties on them, destroying six trenches and foxholes, and killing or injuring several enemy personnel.

Yesterday, the Saddamist criminals again fired on Abadan with their artillery, damaging parts of the city.

In the last 24 hours, every enemy attempt by the Iraqi Ba'thist aircraft to violate the airspace of our Islamic homeland has been repulsed by the self-sacrificing personnel of our Air Force and antiaircraft units.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Paper Calls for Destruction of 'Saddam's Palace'

LD141602 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] "Let Us Finish the Job" is the title of today's JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI editorial:

The price of daring and boldness is being paid by Andimeshk and Dezful. The Baghdad plunderers have strong reason for the new crimes they committed in Andimeshk and Dezful. The ruling Zionists in Baghdad, retaliating for the blow suffered by their eastern master in Iran, resorted to a horrendous crime.

No doubt, the arrest of the treacherous Tudeh Party leaders has, in addition to Moscow, angered Baghdad as well, for, apart from enjoying the availability of [words indistinct] and Russian Tupolevs in their war against the Iranian Republic, the rulers in Baghdad have so far made maximum use of Soviet spies in Iran in this war. Consequently, it is only natural that the arrest of the leaders of the mercenary Tudeh Party and the expulsion of 18 Russian spies from Iran should inflict a big wound in the moribund body of the Zionist regime ruling Baghdad, led by Saddam and his clan, and lead them a step nearer to the verge of collapse.

Therefore, it is to be expected that now that Saddam has lost the service of Russian intelligence in Iran he should try to satiate his anger to some extent by launching Russian missiles on the innocent inhabitants of Andimeshk and Dezful. What at this juncture deserves more attention than anything else is the answer to the question: How long will Saddam be allowed to commit such barbarity through the aid of American, Russian, French, and British arsenals; to show no mercy to a 1-day old infant; to destroy towns, and to bring down people's roofs on their heads?

True, these crimes are an indication of Saddam's helplessness and his imminent collapse. However, he must not be allowed — like the deceased shah — to carry out killings and destruction in the last days of his disgraceful life. One must think of a way to speed up the fall of this great war criminal, so that not only inhabitants of our border towns will be safe from his barbarity, but so that the Iraqi people too will be saved from the ruthless and usurping rule of the Zionist Ba'thists.

Needless to say, no purpose will be served by the comings and goings of foreign correspondents — most of whom are spies — or pleading and complaining to international assemblies, whose very reason for existence is to protect global arrogant and puppet governments. These steps are analogous to rhetoric. One must remember that it is deeds, rather than rhetoric, which bear fruit. Steps must be taken, through the powerful fists of the Islamic combatants, by destroying the palace of oppression in Baghdad, bringing it down over the heads of Saddam and his Zionist clique. There is no other alternative. It is then up to the authorities to take resolute steps and, by devising appropriate methods, finish the infidel Ba'thists before they commit worse crimes.

IRNA Reports Hijacking Attempt Over Oman

GF161740 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 16, IRNA — The Government of Oman denied landing permission to an Iranian aircraft which had been forced to fly to Oman by an armed hijacker.

The hijacker jumped the plane by a parachute in order to escape from justice but he was later arrested by the security officials in Oman.

The plane later flew back to Iran safely.

NVOI Commentary Criticizes Guards Corps Commander

TA160845 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 14 May 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Repeating Slanders of Intelligence Service, CIA, and Mosad"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: As had been expected, to justify history's greatest crime perpetrated by the liberals and the American hojjatis who are in control of the Islamic Government against the true forces of the revolution, headed by the Iranian Tudeh Party, Mr Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards

Corps, at his news conference repeated the slanders fabricated by the intelligence service, the CIA, and Mosad and their Iranian agents. He spoke about the alleged discovery of an espionage organization, forged documents and evidence, several million tumans and the dispatch of individuals to Afghanistan to receive military training. Once again, in the method of SAVAK that is known to everyone, he urged members and followers of the Tudeh Party to give themselves up.

It should be stated that by suppressing the Iranian Tudeh Party, and by resorting to barbarous methods used at the time by the Hitlerite fascists and Aryamehri police at that, the Islamic Government has actually altered the features of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Any schoolchild knows too that all those so-called revelations discussed by Mr Reza'i are entirely fabricated by the intelligence service, the CIA, and Mosad. The facts cannot be distorted by producing this or that imperialist and Zionist evidence.

Logic dictates that if as government figures and officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are claiming, the Iranian Tudeh Party was thinking of toppling the Islamic Republic of Iran's system, it would not have strived to safeguard the revolution's gains and the Islamic Republic of Iran by uncovering and neutralizing numerous coup plots, particularly the Nowzheh coup plot. Logic dictates that if the Iranian Tudeh Party, as you are claiming, was not only engaged in plotting against the Islamic Republic of Iran's system but was even thinking of one day acting against the Islamic Government, it would not have supplied the Ministry of the Interior with any precise information about its leaders, including complete addresses.

Logic also dictates that you, who day and night are engaged in plotting against the independent Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and in dispatching saboteur and terrorist groups to massacre the peace-loving Afghan people, if as you are claiming the Iranian Tudeh Party was sending its members to Afghanistan to receive military training, and had you possessed a document to substantiate this claim, God knows what a tumult you would have raised against Democratic Afghanistan and the Tudeh Party. It is not unlikely that shortly you will arrest and present one or two persons to allegedly prove the charges fabricated by the intelligence service, the CIA, and Mosad, but you should know that this act of yours too, as other acts, including your unfounded charges against the Iranian Tudeh Party, will lack any value and credence and will achieve nothing for you except disgrace.

You have charged leaders of the Iranian Tudeh Party with espionage, and in order to allegedly prove this charge, you have resorted to the filthiest and most disgraceful act in human history, that is using injections to create mental disorders, and after months of the most brutal physical torture at that. Then you claimed that allegedly all the leaders of the party confessed to being spies.

In your view, normal relations between fraternal and labor parties is dependence and espionage. On the basis of this childish logic you are accusing the Iranian Tudeh Party and other world communist parties, such as the communist parties of France, Italy, the United States, India, Germany, Syria, and scores of other communist parties of being dependent and in the service of foreigners. By such ridiculous charges you have dealt the heaviest blow to the Islamic Republic's prestige and credibility in Iran and the world.

Moreover, in a country in which all the doors to state affairs are closed to members and followers of the Tudeh Party, and in which even the sacred duty of defense of the country's soil is taken from them, how and by what means can the members of this party gather military documents and evidence from sensitive military centers as you are claiming? The fact is that authorities of the Islamic Republic have decided to suppress the Iranian Tudeh Party, and this is the first step for sounding the death knell of the revolution and the Islamic Republic. It is being carried out in a cowardly and dastardly manner by employing the method of blackmail and dissemination of slander, by operating the machine of falsehood, and by using the most brutal and filthiest medieval tortures.

The response of our homeland's people and of progressive mankind toward these evil measures is very brief. That is: Gentlemen, your hope to suppress the Iranian Tudeh Party is futile. The Iranian Tudeh Party is alive and fighting. This party which is the true defender of Iranian workers, farmers, and toilers cannot be destroyed by any power.

Kordestan Commander on 'Counterrevolutionaries'

LD162014 Tehran IRNA in English 1912 GMT 16 May 83

[Text] Banandaj, May 16, (irna) — The commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) in Kordestan region, Tamizi, said here today that the Islamic combatants enjoyed a high morale and added that God willing during the current Iranian year after cleaning the area from the counterrevolutionary elements, border of the country will be closed on them. [sentence as received]

He further told IRNA that the Islamic combatants along with operations in southern warfronts, have been carrying out large scale operations in the region and have achieved success. The victories achieved in the region have enabled its people to get rid of the pressure and suppression of the grouplets, he added.

As for cooperation of the local people with the Islamic combatants, he added that they have proved that these were in favour of the Islamic Republic and have been fighting the counterrevolutionary groups such as the outlawed Kordestan Democratic Party (KDP) and Komoleh and other agents of East and West, alongside the Islamic combatants. He further stressed that this sincere cooperation of the people was concrete evidence that they believed in Islam and wanted to get deliverance of the counterrevolutionary elements once and for all.

He also reassured people of the Kordestan region that full security will be established in the area and added that this would be facilitated by further cooperation of the people.

The IRGC commander added that the counterrevolutionary elements had become demoralised and pointed out that in the light of mop up operations carried out by the Islamic combatants

in the past two years, the groups had realised that they were unable to fight against the Islamic forces.

Reportage on Afghan Mujahidin Activities

Towns 'Liberated'

GF101938 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries liberated the towns of (Gad) and Charikar in Parvan Province in the northeastern part of the country, following a fight with the joint Soviet and Afghan Government forces in April. The fight to liberate these 2 towns lasted for 1 week, during which 72 Soviet tanks and personnel carriers were destroyed. The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries also captured large quantities of weapons and military equipment.

To avenge this defeat, the Soviet forces launched cowardly attacks and shelled villages neighboring (Gad) and Charikar.

Soviets Bomb Own Positions

LD141046 Tehran Irna in English 1010 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 14 IRNA — Afghan Muslim mujahideen sources reported that Soviet Air Force indiscriminately bombar ded their own positions in Nimruz Province in an effort to break the besieged Soviet-Karmal military zones as a result of which 60 soldiers were killed and 20 tanks destroyed.

Meanwhile, Mujahideen had been successful in occupying the border military post of (Makaki) and the town of (Keng) after a bloody and long fight. Mujahideen surrounded and attacked Soviet reinforcement convoy which was being sent to shatter mujahideen (occupation), and in spite of the air raids (which mainly destroyed their own allied forces) mujahideen remained successful in holding and keeping (Keng) liberated from Soviet occupation.

Other reports said a Soviet squad carried out massive attacks for thirteen days on the (Nijrab)-Tagab Valley, but mujahideen succeeded in maintaining it free. The losses caused by heavy bombardment could not be correctly estimated. However, the entire family of Maulavi Barakat Shah of seven members with the exception of one five-year old child had been martyred.

Battle Successes Cited

GF141303 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] During the clash in Herat Province in western Afghanistan between the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries and the joint Soviet-Afghan Government forces, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries killed 47 Soviet soldiers.

In an attack carried out by the revolutionaries against the Qal'eh of Shah in Farah Province in western Afghanistan, they killed 10 of the Kabul government personnel. Reports indicate that the Muslim Afghan mujahidin are besieging the Qal'eh of Shah.

In other battles which took place in the Qal'eh of Khasrod in Nimruz Province in southwestern Afghanistan, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries killed 33 personnel among the joint Soviet-Afghan Government forces and wounded 15 others. During these battles, they also destroyed two tanks belonging to the joint Soviet-Afghan Government forces.

'Brutal Bombardment' Launched

LD152215 Tehran IRNA in English 1941 GMT 15 May 83

[Excerpts] Zahedan, May 15, IRNA — A number of Afghan mujahideen who had participated in the recent clashes with the joint Soviet and Afghan Government forces in the province of Herat in a report dispatched to IRNA here today outlined the present state of affairs in Afghanistan.

The report said that unable to confront the Muslim mujahideen in battle, the joint Soviet-Afghan forces resorted to a savage bombardment and aerial strikes against innocent civilian population. The report added that Herat Province because of its strategic political and military position has been subjected to a brutal bombardment for 12 days since the beginning of this month by the Soviet forces.

Using incendiary bombs, the Soviet forces, in these attacks on the province killed more than 2,000 local people and destroyed and damaged 110 villages while 31 mujahideen were martyred, the report said.

The report further added that the mujahideen in these clashes killed over 760 Soviet and joint troops, injuring around 750 and taking captive more than 120. The report also said more than 52 tanks and 13 helicopters and MIG fighters of the joint Soviet-Afghan forces were destroyed in the battle, and some armaments were seized by mujahideen.

250 DRA, USSR Troops Killed

LD152150 Tehran IRNA in English 1929 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] Zahedan, may 15 IRNA — Afghan mujahideen killed 250 joint Soviet and Afghan Government troops in addition to taking two high ranking commanders captive in a surprise attack [word indistinct] in a region of Farah Province and a governorate in Nimruz Province last week.

Also in another attack, twenty concentration sites of the Soviet forces in the Province of Nimruz were destroyed by the Afghan mujahideen. A number of the aggressor enemy soldiers were killed.

In this attack three tanks and one vehicle were destroyed and a large quantity of weapons, a wireless set and hunreds of mines fell into the hands of the Afghan mujahideen. A mujahid and three non-military people were martyred in this encounter.